Fisher Midgett

Ms. Mount

English 11

1 March 2012

Writing Prompt 4

The theme of a novel is very important to understanding the overall message that the author is trying to convey throughout the story. The theme also gives the reader a main focal point to reflect back on after they have finished the book. A main theme of the Old Man in the Sea is the theme of pride. A heroic man like Santiago should have a lot of pride and he shows this as he reflects back on his younger days, when he caught all of the fish in his life. It is apparent too how Santiago’s pride forces him to follow the marlin far out to sea in order to catch him. During the great battle Santiago find the marlin a very worthy opponent and even calls the marlin his brother. This also shows how much respect Santiago had for the great fish. Santiago tells also of him having to kill the fish for pride, as to regain his pride for catching great fish as he used to. Santiago’s pride tells a lot about how the author intended him to be in the story.